

THE DAILY MISSOURIAN

Published every evening (except Saturday and Sunday) and Sunday morning by The Missouriian Association, Incorporated, Columbia, Mo.

Address all communications to THE DAILY MISSOURIAN, Columbia, Missouri.

Office: Virginia Building, Downstairs. Phone: Business, 55; News, 274.

Entered at the postoffice, Columbia, Mo., as second-class mail.

City: Year, \$3.50; 3 months, \$1.00; month, 35 cents; copy, 5 cents. By mail in Boone County: Year, \$3.00; 6 months, \$1.75; 3 months, 50 cents. Outside of Boone County: Year, \$4.00; 3 months, \$1.20; month, 40 cents.

National Advertising Representatives, Carpenter-Scheerer Co., Fifth Avenue Building, New York; Peoples Gas Building, Chicago.

"IT IS RUMORED THAT—"

Gerard was not detained by Germany. Our consuls not only were not mistreated but received every aid to finish their business. And all the editorial foaming of the mouth was a result not of fact but of war rumor, which, like hydrophobia, drives men mad and urges them to kill.

"Go out to kill," bayed the hysterical editors. Of course these blunt undiplomatic terms were not employed. Instead Americans were asked to "defend their rights." And it seems after due investigation that their rights were not infringed.

"Our flag has been lowered; we must fight," is now the cry of some newspapers, driven crazy by the poisoned fangs of war. Would it not be wise to remember that slow investigation to reveal the true facts of the case is just as compatible with honor as headstrong, blustering, bullying tactics?

Even the editor of Leslie's could scarcely convince the 300 women in New York who vainly begged for bread at the city hall that this country is so prosperous.

The bald man grins at the announcement that hair-cuts cost 35 cents.

A NEW ELECTRIC LINE

The proposed electric line through Columbia can meet with only approval from the people of this vicinity. It would be a long stride forward socially and economically and would affect everyone. Such a line would mean keener competition and a greater rivalry for the place of an important trade center. Columbia business men would have an increased trade territory, and the city would offer advantages to business houses that it doesn't have now.

The coming of the railroad has made cities and destroyed others. Their existence depends, largely on the attitude of the residents. If they have the "pep" they can't be kept in the background. Columbia's merchants have shown that they favor progress and the development of Columbia. An electric line will mean a more active city. And visitors here won't have to tolerate branch trains and branch tracks coming in and going out.

THE MILITARY MIND

Carl W. Ackerman, United Press correspondent, who left Germany with Ambassador Gerard's party, has taken advantage of his first opportunity to write an uncensored account of the results of German militarism in its most extreme development.

"There is endless graft in the food distribution plan," he writes. "The police are powerless to stop this, because the chief offenders are influential Germans. But Field Marshal von Hindenburg's plans go on just the same. The Hindenburg idea is coldly calculated on the German army alone."

Brute strength and sheer force are the idols of the military mind. Ignoring the crumbling under-structure of the nation—its economic and industrial strength—the inflexible intellect of iron and steel, stiff and unwieldy, sees only the battlefield as the means to national supremacy. Years of military rule have caused the importance of the great army to be overestimated.

A military organization cannot stand alone; it is merely the arm, not the trunk, heart and brains of the national body. Hindenburg is attempting to develop the fighting arm, while the body wastes away. Without a sound economic and industrial organization to back it, the army is a futile club in the hands of a weak nation.

While the military mind in Germany watched the battle line, the industrial

powers slowly sapped the strength of the nation.

Militarism, or universal military service, as it is politely called, soon leads to an overestimation of its own power. Let us not take the first step through compulsory military service.

MONEY SAVED BY PROHIBITION

Too often states have acted like individuals in business by holding one dollar so close to their eyes that they could not see five in the distance. A recent interview with a member of the Rhode Island State Board of Control revealed the startling fact that in that state it costs the citizens \$13.10 care for the products of the saloon, for every dollar of revenue received by the state from the liquor traffic. Figures recently compiled by Mrs. Frances E. Beauchamp of Kentucky indicate that for every twenty dollars spent for booze the states receive an average of one dollar.

The taxation argument can best be answered in terms of blind and dumb children, 68 per cent of whom owe their misfortune to inebriate parentage; feeble minded persons, 92 per cent of whom have the same complaint against society; insane men and women, 55 per cent of whom are mad because of liquor; criminals, 86 per cent of whom met booze on the threshold of their downward career. Put a decimal point in front of each figure, multiply it by the expense of upkeep for various institutions and you have the taxation score of John Barleycorn in terms of dollars.

That drink is indirectly a tremendous blow at industrial progress by lessening mental efficiency is now a recognized fact by most scientists and is becoming generally known. Statistics show that 77 per cent of all establishments now consider the use of liquor before employing a man. In some industries, the percentage runs much higher than others. In practically all cases where the use of

liquor is considered, however, total abstinence is demanded.

There is something economically wrong with the anti-prohibition argument that more liquor is sold in dry territory than in wet. The brewing interests would not espouse a dying cause if this were true, for instinctively they are always looking to the volume of business, the same as any other industry.

THE NEW BOOKS

"Stories of Thrift."

One of our richest men has said that thrift is but a simple thing, and it means so much. It is the foundation of success in business, of contentment in the home, of standing in society. The secret of simple living is thrift of time, money, body and brain. The interesting incidents related in "Stories of Thrift for Young Americans," by Myron T. Pritchard and Grace A. Turkington, should be a help to teachers of the young, to parents and to the children themselves who read them.

(Charles Scribner's Sons, New York; illustrated; 222 pages.)

"O Mary, Be Careful."

Mary, whose story is related by George Weston, was a poor relation adopted by a spinster aunt who had been disappointed in love and who tried to prevent Mary having the same experience. Aunt Myra had a library of scrap books, bound in sheep, labeled "Man, His Love and Honor," in which she had pasted all sorts of divorce court records and other newspaper and magazine articles to prove how vile is man. Then she left a will by which Mary was to be deprived of \$50,000 if she married, and she was told to be careful and not to forfeit the money until she had proved a man worthy of her trust by three tests. Finally Mary found the man who stood the three tests and then she found out something more about the will, and they were happy ever after. It is brightly amusing, and might be instructive to young ladies contemplating matrimony, to say nothing of young men so disposed.

(J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia; \$1.)

WIDOW FILES SUIT FOR \$10,000

Mrs. Hattie L. Ratcliffe of Centralia Asks Damages for Husband's Death.

Suit for \$10,000 and costs was filed in the Circuit Court yesterday by Mrs. Hattie L. Ratcliffe of Centralia against the City of Centralia and the Mexico Power Company for the death of her husband, who was electrocuted February 10 in the city power house at Centralia. Mrs. Ratcliffe charges the defendants with negligence.

Henry Ratcliffe and a fellow worker employed in the laundry next to the power house were told to remove a section of steam pipe and to carry it to the power house for repairs. As the two men entered the power house, the steam pipe came in contact with a wire, said to have been carrying 16,000 volts. Ratcliffe was killed, but his fellow worker was not injured.

Mrs. Ratcliffe says the wire belonged to the Mexico Power Company and the power house to Centralia. She charges that the wire was not insulated sufficiently to carry safely a current of only 600 volts. She says the lack of insulation was not known to her husband, but should have been known to the authorities of the city.

Ratcliffe was 31 years old. He left a wife and two children without support.

Y. W. C. A. to Elect Officers.

The annual election of Y. W. C. A. officers will be held in the Union Building at 4 o'clock this afternoon. A musical program will be given.

Upon presenting myself as a candidate for the office of

City Assessor

I have considered carefully the need of fairness and accuracy in placing value upon taxable property. I solicit the support of those who have considered that need.

John F. Challis

Candidate for City Assessor

Subject to Democratic Primary Monday

Vote for Berry W. Jacobs for City Collector

(Candidate for Re-election)

Business Efficiency

My term as City Collector is an illustration of business efficiency. The city treasurer's records show the results of choosing a trained man for the position. My predecessors for a term equal to mine, three years and three months, collected for the city \$66,255.47. During the same time I collected \$101,448.20 or a gain of \$35,192.73. This increase came from the collection of back taxes and from the rigid enforcement of license ordinances.

A Trained Business Man

I have had training which makes me specially fitted for the position. It will not be necessary to train me at the expense of the city. When I took the office of the city collector, the city had \$8,000 borrowed to carry on its government; today it has \$24,424 in the treasury.

Yours For Service For the People of Columbia

Berry W. Jacobs

Wide-Awake Attention is necessary to the proper execution of the duties of City

COLLECTOR

Remember

Durward Schooler

THE OFFICE OF CITY

COLLECTOR

CALLS FOR

**VIGOROUS
CLEAN
CONSCIENTIOUS
WORK**

REMEMBER

W. L. Jarvis

For City Collector

Subject to Tomorrow's Primary

The Open Season For Kodaks Is Here

We rent them,
25 cents a day

Spring, the ideal weather for strolling and "hiking," reveals the beauty spots of Columbia and surrounding country.

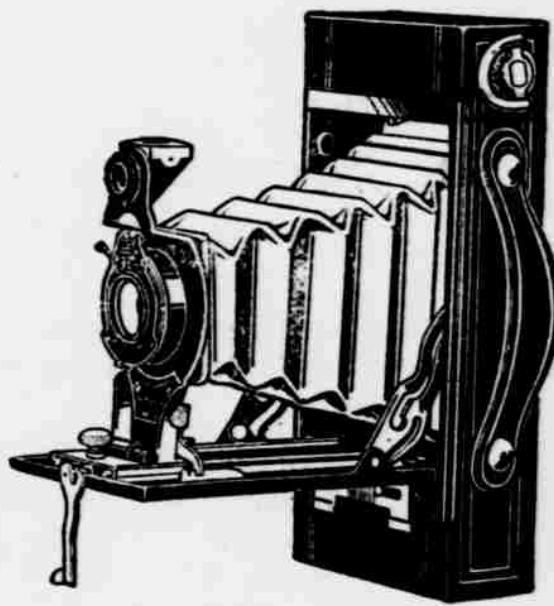
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We sell the genuine Eastman. Get your films here and then return them for developing and printing.

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COLLEGE LINEN
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College Linen is the best pound paper that can be bought under 50c now. One year ago we sold College Linen at 25c—it is now 45c.

CO-OP